

9 OCT -7 1-13-6

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1402

RECEIVED BY: A

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON URGING THE IMMEDIATE PASSAGE OF THE SENATE BILLS CALLING FOR THE PHASE OUT OF INCANDESCENT BULBS IN THE COUNTRY, WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF STUDYING THE POPULARIZATION OF THE USE OF LAMPS WITH LIGHT EMITTING DIODES, AND OF THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 states: "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

WHEREAS, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo announced in February 2008 that the country will phase out incandescent bulbs by 2010 in favor of more energy-efficient fluorescent bulbs to help cut greenhouse gas emissions and household costs;

WHEREAS, other countries have enacted a ban on the manufacture and import of the standard 100-watt and frosted light bulbs that started September of this year, the latest of which is the European Union that seeks to phases out all incandescent bulbs throughout its members states over the next three years, according to various reports;

WHEREAS, the ban intends to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by replacing incandescent bulbs, which release most of their energy as heat not light, with more efficient types of lighting, including fluorescent, halogen and LED (light emitting diodes) lamps;

WHEREAS, fluorescent bulbs need just twenty percent of the electricity that incandescent bulbs use to produce the same amount of light, and last six to ten times longer than the average incandescent bulb;

WHEREAS, LEDs are being touted as the future of lighting since they are expected to be twice as energy efficient as compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs);

WHEREAS, it has to be noted that CFLs contain small amounts of mercury that could build up in landfills, where the chemicals can leach into the soil and water, poisoning fish and other wildlife;

WHEREAS, since there are pending bills in the Senate for phasing out incandescent bulbs in the country, this resolution seeks to reiterate the urgency in passing these bills into law;

WHEREAS, it should also be considered in passing such a law the possibility of prioritizing and popularizing the use of LEDs to replace incandescent bulbs and lamps, and also to encourage the invention, innovation, and development of the application of the LEDs in households, businesses, and various industries;

WHEREAS, such legislation should be supplemented with the recommendation of the proper disposal of both incandescent bulbs and CFLs because such a measure entails not only energy use but also waste management;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved in the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on urging the immediate passage of the senate bills calling for the phase out of incandescent bulbs in the country, with the recommendation of studying the popularization of the use of lamps with light emitting diodes, and of the proper disposal of compact fluorescent light bulbs.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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